

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1, 3-5 and 8-11 are currently being cancelled.

Claims 7 and 13 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment and reply amends and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending and canceling the claims as set forth above, claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claims 6 and 12. By way of this amendment and reply, claims 7 and 13 now depend from allowed claims 6 and 12, respectively, and thus claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 are in allowable form.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-5, 7-11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,785,726 to Freeman et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,790,809 to Holmes. Due to the cancellation of claims 1, 3-5 and 8-11, and due to the changed dependencies for claims 7 and 13 so that they now depend from an allowed claim, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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